

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS (MA)

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

The degree of Master of Arts (MA) is a postgraduate degree awarded for the satisfactory completion of a prescribed course of study in one of the following fields: Art History, Chinese Historical Studies; Chinese Language and Literature; English Studies; Linguistics; Literary and Cultural Studies; and Translation. These fields of study will not necessarily be offered every year.

MA1 Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Arts, candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;¹
 - (b) shall comply with the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
 - (c) shall hold
 - (i) a Bachelor's degree with honours of this University; or a qualification of equivalent standard from this University or another comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
 - (ii) in respect of the courses of study leading to the degree of Master of Arts in the field of Art History, either a Bachelor's degree with a major in art history; or a Bachelor's degree in another subject and substantial art-related experience;
 - (iii) in respect of the courses of study leading to the degree of Master of Arts in the field of Chinese Language and Literature, a Bachelor's degree with honours with a major in Chinese or a closely related subject;
 - (iv) in respect of the courses of study leading to the degree of Master of Arts in the field of English Studies, a Bachelor's degree with honours with a major in English or a closely related subject;
 - (v) in respect of the courses of study leading to the degree of Master of Arts in the field of Linguistics, a Bachelor's degree with honours with a major in Linguistics or a closely related subject;
 - (vi) in respect of the courses of study leading to the degree of Master of Arts in the field of Translation, a professional qualification deemed to be equivalent to a Bachelor's degree with honours; and
 - (d) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.
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MA2 Qualifying examination

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidates' formal academic ability or their ability to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent and may include a project report.

¹ In addition to the admission requirement specified in General Regulation G 2, the Faculty also requires:

- (a) TOEFL: a Test of Written English (TWE) score of 4 or above or a Writing score of 25 or above in the internet-based TOEFL (not applicable to the MA in Chinese Historical Studies and the MA in Chinese Language and Literature); and
- (b) IELTS: a minimum overall Band of 7 with no subtest lower than 5.5.

- (b) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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MA3 Award of degree

To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Arts, candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
 - (b) shall comply with the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
 - (c) shall complete the curriculum as prescribed in the syllabuses and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.
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MA4 Period of study

- (a) The curriculum shall normally extend
 - (i) in the field of Art History, over one academic year of full-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years;
 - (ii) in the fields of Chinese Historical Studies, Chinese Language and Literature, and Translation, over two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of four academic years;
 - (iii) in the field of English Studies, over one academic year of full-time study or two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or three academic years of part-time study;
 - (iv) in the field of Linguistics, over one academic year of full-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years; and
 - (v) in the field of Literary and Cultural Studies, over one academic year of full-time study or two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or three academic years of part-time study.
 - (b) Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration specified in MA 4(a), unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty.
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MA5 Completion of curriculum

To complete the curriculum, candidates

- (a) shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG 6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
 - (b) shall follow courses of instruction and complete satisfactorily all prescribed written work;
 - (c) shall complete and present a satisfactory capstone experience on a subject within their fields of study;
 - (d) shall satisfy the examiners in all prescribed courses and in any prescribed form of assessment as prescribed in the syllabuses; and
 - (e) shall satisfy the examiners in an oral examination if required.
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MA6 Advanced standing

Advanced Standing may be granted to candidates in the field of Translation in recognition of studies completed successfully before admission to the curriculum. Candidates who are awarded Advanced Standing will not be granted any further credit transfer for those studies for which Advanced Standing

has been granted. The amount of credits to be granted for Advanced Standing shall be determined by the Board of the Faculty, in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) a candidate may be granted a total of not more than 20% of the total credits normally required under a curriculum for Advanced Standing unless otherwise approved by the Senate;
 - (b) application for Advanced Standing will only be considered if the previous studies were done within 5 years before admission to the curriculum;
 - (c) Advanced Standing will not be granted for elective course and capstone experience; and
 - (d) credits granted for Advanced Standing shall not normally be included in the calculation of the GPA unless permitted by the Board of the Faculty but will be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.
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MA7 Capstone experience

Subject to the provisions of Regulation MA 5(c), the title of the capstone experience (dissertation, portfolio or individual project) shall be submitted for approval by a date as prescribed in the syllabuses for each field of study. Similarly, the capstone experience shall be presented by a date as prescribed in the syllabuses for each field of study. Candidates shall submit a statement that the capstone experience represents their own work (or in the case of conjoint work, a statement countersigned by their co-worker(s), which shows their share of the work) undertaken after registration as candidates for the degree.

MA8 Assessment

- (a) The assessment for each course shall be as specified in the syllabuses. Only passed courses will earn credits. Grades in all fields of study shall be awarded in accordance with TPG 9(a) of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula.
 - (b) Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners on the first attempt in not more than two courses, excluding the capstone experience, in an academic year may be permitted to
 - (i) present themselves for re-examination in the failed course(s) on a specified date or re-submit their work for the failed course(s) for re-assessment within a specified period determined by the MA Board of Examiners, but no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
 - (ii) repeat the failed course(s) by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessment requirements; or
 - (iii) for elective courses, take another course in lieu and satisfy the assessment requirements.
 - (c) Subject to the provisions of Regulation MA 5(c), candidates who have failed to present a satisfactory capstone experience may be permitted to revise and re-present the capstone experience within a specified period determined by the MA Board of Examiners.
 - (d) Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners in the final review in the field of English Studies may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination on a specified date determined by the MA Board of Examiners, but no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester).
 - (e) There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.
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MA9 Discontinuation

Candidates who

- (a) are not permitted to present themselves for re-examination/re-submission in any written examination or coursework assessment in which they have failed to satisfy the examiners or to repeat the failed course(s); or
- (b) are not permitted to revise and re-present the capstone experience; or
- (c) have failed to satisfy the examiners on second attempt in any coursework assessment, examination, or the capstone experience; or
- (d) have failed more than two courses, excluding the capstone experience, on the first attempt in an academic year; or
- (e) have exceeded the maximum period of registration as specified in MA 4

may be required to discontinue their studies under the provisions of General Regulation G 12.

MA10 Assessment results

On successful completion of the curriculum, candidates who have shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates' degree diploma.

MA11 Supplementary examination

Candidates who are unable because of illness to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves for a supplementary examination of the same course. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of absence from any examination. The supplementary examination shall be held at a time to be determined by the MA Board of Examiners. Candidates who fail to satisfy the examiners in the supplementary examination shall be considered as failure on the first attempt.

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS (MA)

ART HISTORY

The MA in Art History is taught by the Department of Fine Arts and provides advanced training in both academic art history and professional curatorial work. With dual expertise in both Asian and western art history, the department offers a unique programme enabling students to conduct in-depth study in Asian art, western art, and intercultural aspects of art. One required core course introduces advanced academic skills in art historical methodology, research, and writing, with a second required core course introducing advanced curatorial skills in techniques and materials, connoisseurship, and aspects of museum work. Elective courses give students the flexibility to shape a curriculum suitable to their individual needs and interests. The MA dissertation is a capstone course completed during the summer months under the supervision of an expert supervisor.

The MA curriculum comprises six semester-long courses and a dissertation, distributed in the following way:

- 2 required core courses (9 credits each)
- 2 elective MA courses (9 credits each)
- 2 elective courses cross-listed with undergraduate courses (6 credits each)
- 1 MA dissertation (12 credits)

All instruction is in English and assessment is 100% coursework, which may include discussion, oral presentations, research essays, various kinds of short writing assignments, and tests.

COURSES

(1) All MA students are required to take the following two core courses.

FINE7001 Art History: Goals, Methods, and Writing (9 credits)

This is the first of the MA's two compulsory core courses. It introduces students to the fundamental concepts and practices of art history by examining major methodologies and issues that shape the past, present and future of our discipline, including formalism, iconography, connoisseurship, materiality, social art history, post-colonialism, and the analysis of gender, globalisation, and the art world. Teaching is seminar-based and centers on the discussion and critique of key art-historical texts. In assessment, a strong emphasis is placed on acquiring specialised writing and research skills, and on preparation for dissertation writing.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE7002 Art History: Materials, Techniques, and Collections (9 credits)

This is the second of the MA's two compulsory core courses. It introduces students to the key institutions and practices of the art world, and to a range of the materials, media and techniques that art historians and other professionals are concerned with. Teaching is largely seminar and discussion-based, combined with site visits to collections and/or studios. In assessment, emphasis is placed on a grasp of key concepts, on precise examination and description of artworks, and on acquiring exhibition-related skills.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

(2) Students choose two MA electives from the following list.

FINE7003 Seminar in Asian Art (9 credits)

This seminar will focus in depth on one area of Asian art and visual culture, with an emphasis on art historical strategies. Students will prepare a seminar paper drawing on knowledge of a certain area, but will further be encouraged to demonstrate a critical approach to broader methodological and theoretical issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE7004 Seminar in Chinese Art (9 credits)

This seminar will focus in depth on one area of Chinese art history with an emphasis on object research and close visual analysis. Where possible, students will be working directly with objects. Students will prepare a seminar paper focusing on a specific artwork or type of artworks. They will further be encouraged to demonstrate a critical approach to a broad range of methodological and theoretical issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE7005 Seminar in Western Art, 5th to 15th Centuries (9 credits)

The Middle Ages began with the radical transformation of the society and culture of Classical antiquity, and ended with a Renaissance that claimed to revive it. The migration of new peoples into Europe, the rise of Christianity and Islam, the advent of feudalism and mercantile cities, the development of monastic communities, universities, pilgrimage sites and royal courts all drove the development of manifold new forms of art and architecture. This course covers a selected range of key artworks and topics from the period, as well as a range of historiographic and conceptual approaches by which art historians have sought to explore them.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE7006 Seminar in Western Art, 15th to 18th Centuries (9 credits)

In the early-modern period, beginning in the Renaissance and continuing into the Baroque era, the visual arts of Europe were transformed by a series of aesthetic, intellectual, technological, political and economic changes. The artistic legacy of this period continues to inform the identity of 'Western Civilisation' and the practices and values of the art world to the present day. This course covers a selected range of key artists and topics in the period, as well as a range of historiographic and conceptual approaches by which art historians have sought to explore them.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE7007 Seminar in Western Art, 18th to 20th Centuries (9 credits)

This seminar course focuses on the history of western art between the 18th and 20th centuries. It analyzes in depth a particular set of historical issues, treating a variety of individual works and artists while paying particular attention to national or cultural differences among them. Students will read and discuss readings related to current theories and methodologies in this area of art history.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE7008 Seminar in Contemporary Art (9 credits)

This course will provide a critical introduction to key issues and debates about contemporary art and exhibition making within the increasingly interconnected, yet unevenly developed globalizing world. With a specific focus on a selection of artworks, projects and exhibitions, this course will examine the social, cultural and political contexts in which they were created and presented, analysing their form, content, reception and subsequent interpretation. By virtue of these chosen case studies, students will consider and explore how artistic practices and exhibitions have produced, framed and impacted recent art historical knowledge.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

(3) Students choose two undergraduate electives from the following list.

FINE3011 The image in the era of religious reformations (6 credits)

In the 17th century, the visual arts of Europe continued to be shaped by the political, social and cultural convulsions that had broken out during the Protestant Reformation. This course examines the impact of changing religious practices, concerns and controversies in early modern Europe, with a focus on the second half of the 16th Century and the first half of the 17th. We will examine the phenomenon of iconoclasm, and the emergence of religious images that responded to specifically Protestant concerns. South of the Alps and Pyrenees, we will look at the concerns surrounding the sacred image in Catholic societies as its religious functions became increasingly hard to reconcile with its artistic qualities, at the impact of the Catholic Reformation, censorship, mystic visions, naturalism, and the development of the Baroque style. Artists covered include Michelangelo, Caravaggio, Annibale Carracci, Rubens and Bernini.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3012 Cross-cultural interactions in the 19th century (6 credits)

This course examines artistic interactions between western and non-western cultures brought on by scientific exploration, diplomacy and war, imperialism, and trade in the period 1750-1900. We study various ways in which European and American artists responded to the cultures they encountered elsewhere in the world, as well as how non-westerners responded to the west. Emphasis is placed on the diverse processes of cultural interaction and their impact on the development of modernity in different cultural contexts. Major non-western regions to be studied might include China, Japan, India, the Near East, and elsewhere.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3013 Hong Kong art workshop (6 credits)

This course will introduce Hong Kong art and related aspects of Hong Kong visual culture. It will be taught in a workshop format, and will provide the opportunity for students to develop skills in art criticism as well as an understanding of Hong Kong art history.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3014 The whys of where: an East Asian art history of imaginative geographies (6 credits)

This course will examine the relationship between image-making and cultural encounters at regional and trans-national levels, and the role of visual artefacts in the making of real and imaginative

geographies. The module will begin with 16th century Jesuit missionaries propagating their “universal history” with, amongst many things, world maps, and end with an investigation of modern Chinese artists’ visions of an “East” in the global context. Themes will be organized into two or three week classes, which are designed to stimulate students into making comparisons and parallels. In each instance, connections, commonalities, and differences are examined as patterns within East Asia, and between Japan and China.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3015 Arts of India (6 credits)

From the dawn of Buddhism to the present day, art and visual culture have played a central role in how India is imagined both within the country and beyond. The visual landscape of India is punctuated by the iconic images of gods and goddesses, the architectural expressions of Islam, and the legacy of the colonial rule. Through an interdisciplinary but historically rooted approach, this course addresses Buddhist and Hindu art, the art patronage of both Mughal and sub-imperial courts and will conclude with a discussion of artistic practice under colonial rule through to India's independence in 1947

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3020 Women making art after 1960 (6 credits)

Issues of sexuality, subjectivity, gender, and domesticity have been central to women making art since the 1960s. In response to the urgent need for reconsidering women’s contribution to the constitution and representation of sociocultural and geopolitical realities within the international art world beyond Euro-American centers this module grounds the historical discussion of these concepts in a broader global context. The first half of the course reviews key issues and debates in western feminist art movements between the 1960s and 1980s. The inclusion of case studies on the works of women artists, including Mona Hatoum, Nikki S. Lee, Yin Xiuzhen, Shen Yuan, and ON Megumi Akiyoshi in the second half of the course aims at introducing new artistic contents, and alternative cultural formats and theoretical paradigms to the on-going construction of a feminist history of art within the increasingly interconnected, yet unevenly developed globalizing contemporary society.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3021 Visual culture in the age of European expansion ca. 1450-1750 (6 credits)

This course examines art and architecture produced by and for Europeans in the context of the early-modern exploration and colonisation that brought European peoples into closer contact with a broader range of cultures than they had previously known. Beginning in the 15th century and continuing into the 18th, the processes of trade, religious conversion, scientific study, mass enslavement, conquest, and settlement that ensued established some of the foundations of the modern world; not least because of the new forms of visual representation Europeans adopted to better comprehend (and exploit) their expanding world. This course covers a broad range of objects relating to Europe and the Mediterranean, North America and Asia which exemplify the role of the visual arts in the social and intellectual transformations that accompanied colonialism, including paintings, sculptures, prints, maps, buildings, city plans, collections, fountains and gardens. Topics covered include the changing representation of cultural, gender, ethnic, and racial identity; new concepts of savagery and civilisation; the rise of colonial cities; the spread of Christianity; diplomacy across cultures; and scientific ‘curiosity’ and natural history.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3022 Visual culture of modern Japan (6 credits)

Eighteenth century Edo (now known as Tokyo) was the world's largest city. It was the military headquarters of the shoguns, a cosmopolitan city with a vibrant milieu of merchants, samurai, actors, courtesans, craftsmen and artists. By the nineteenth century, it was transformed into Tokyo, the imperial capital with a reformed political infrastructure. This course will focus on the artistic traditions that were transformed and transplanted from Edo into Tokyo. Topics of discussion will include the revival of classical imagery, popular culture during the eighteenth century, the conflicts brought on by the opening of Japan to the West in the nineteenth century, the reconstruction of Tokyo and its artistic practices after the World War Two, and the impact of Japanese architecture, design and popular culture over the past twenty years.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3023 Is Spain different? Spanish art from the Visigoths to Picasso (6 credits)

The eminent art historian Erwin Panofsky once asserted that, “in Spain, anything is possible.” He meant this to signify that Spanish art is an art apart, following its own rules. Artistic production from the Iberian Peninsula has alternately been regarded as derivative, borrowing or copying from other European currents, or conceptualized as something completely its own. During this course, students will examine Spanish art from a range of cultural and temporal contexts across the country’s history—Visigothic, Islamic, Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, and Modern—while maintaining an ongoing critical discourse on the particularities of Spain and questioning whether we can speak of trends consistent to the Spanish experience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3024 Angels, demons, and beasts: Romanesque and Gothic art (6 credits)

The medieval imagination produced some of the most tender images of Western art as well as the most grotesque. Images of a sainted mother cradling her child existed within the same milieu, if not the same artistic program, as those of a monstrous Hellmouth. This course examines the imaginative, playful, frightening, and sometimes contradictory art and architecture of the Romanesque and Gothic periods in Western Europe, from around the year 1000 to 1500. We will consider and discuss a number of issues relevant across art history—such as the role of the artist, theories of vision and color, marginal art, materiality, and cross-cultural interaction—within a medieval context.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3025 Pious worldliness: Buddhist art and material culture (6 credits)

This course introduces the fundamentals of Buddhism and its art from ancient times to the present. Rather than portraying Buddhist art as a timeless ideal, the class deploys case studies to foreground the dynamics of its development. In particular, it examines how styles, iconographies, and media have been purposefully selected and reconfigured in varying contexts across and beyond Asia. The class also explores contemporary art inspired by Buddhist concepts, and the role of collecting and curatorial practices in shaping the interpretation of Buddhist artifacts.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE3026 Art + law in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries (6 credits)

Art and law (Art + Law) is distinct from the practice of art law. While the latter occupies the field of art business, the former considers how art and law might be mutual endeavors, one informing the

other. This class focuses on the former, considering how artists have provoked, represented, wielded, refined, tested, expanded, and unconventionally complied with private and public law. This intersection of art and law invites questions: Who or what authorizes or bestows the label of art? What is the basis for this authority and how are artworks influenced by, and/or function in opposition to, such authorizing forces? Can and how has the law been represented in art? How have artworks and artists disrupted legal regimes through civil disobedience (the breaking of a law); and how has dissent been expressed through uncivil obedience (the following of a law in a hyperbolic, literalistic, and unanticipated manner)? Although global in outlook, the cases under discussion are largely (although certainly not exclusively) Western in focus. Yet, the topics considered in this class might be applied to any number of geographic and cultural arenas. This course is not a history of art law, and neither is it a history of art symbolically looking at law; rather, this class examines the mutually influencing spheres wherein art activates, images, provokes, interacts with, and even interferes with the law.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE 3027 The art of the ancient Aegean (6 credits)

This course introduces the topic of ancient Aegean Art, chronologically spanning from the Neolithic Era to the Beginning of the Dark Ages, and encompassing the three major art historical categories of Cycladic, Minoan and Mycenaean material culture. By incorporating art history, archaeology, ancient history and classical studies, the course seeks to offer new interpretations of the Ancient Aegean iconographies and cultures, while also examining the relationship between the Aegean World and Egypt, Anatolia and the Near East.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE4002 Perspectives in Asian art (6 credits)

This seminar will focus in depth on one area of Asian art and visual culture, with an emphasis on art historical strategies. Students will prepare a seminar paper drawing on knowledge of a certain area, but will further be encouraged to demonstrate a critical approach to broader methodological and theoretical issues.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE4003 Perspectives in Western art (6 credits)

This seminar will focus in depth on one area of Western art and visual culture, with an emphasis on art historical strategies. Students will prepare a seminar paper drawing on knowledge of a certain area, but will further be encouraged to demonstrate a critical approach to broader methodological and theoretical issues.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE4004 Perspectives in art history (6 credits)

This course, in the form of seminars, requires active participation from students. It is intended for students in their fourth year who have already engaged seriously with art history during their previous study. It aims to deepen students' understanding of the discipline of art history. The course interrogates prevailing art historical scholarship by exploring both the parameters of the discipline in general and specific locations or eras. Case studies consider modes of interpretation in combination with primary documents, secondary interpretations, and historiography.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE4006 Independent research project in art history (6 credits)

This course is intended for advanced students with a strong reason for researching a particular art historical topic in depth. Students undertake substantial original research and produce an extended essay, under the supervision of a teacher in the department. The supervising teacher's approval must be secured before enrolling in this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE4007 Sites of representation: Artistic practices from colonial to independent India (6 credits)

This class is a thematic investigation into Indian art from the late colonial period through Independence in 1947. Over this span of roughly fifty years the politics of style sat at the hub of many debates about modern art. Given that India has a rich tradition of artistic expression, many asked whether modern art should look to India's past or to the international for inspiration. Topics will include the rejection of European-style oil painting, the advance of a "new Indian" aesthetic, and how various social and political changes impacted artistic production.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE4008 Art, writing, printing and printmaking in early-modern Europe (6 credits)

The invention of printing with movable type, and the concurrent invention of printmaking technologies capable of reproducing images, marked an epochal development in European culture. This course investigates the ways in which these technologies arose and developed. We examine the new media that transformed visual culture in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, as well as the impact of printing on older forms of visual art, such as painting, sculpture and architecture, and on artistic training and collecting. In studying these developments, we will look at printmakers like Dürer, Marcantonio, Lucas van Leyden, Cort, Callot, Goltzius, Rosa and Rembrandt. This class incorporates a compulsory field trip.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

FINE4009 Perspectives in contemporary art (6 credits)

This course examines key issues and debates about the production, exhibition and circulation of contemporary art within an increasingly interconnected, yet unevenly developed contemporary art world. Concentrating on key case studies, which engendered, framed, investigated and reflected on contemporary art historical knowledge, this course explores the social, cultural and political contexts where they were created and presented, analysing their form, content, reception and subsequent interpretation. Through the discussion of the legacies of these case studies, this course also interrogates the specific ways in which they have affected contemporary art and its display.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

(4) All MA students are required to complete the following MA dissertation.

FINE7999 Capstone Experience: MA Dissertation in Art History (12 credits)

The MA Dissertation in Art History is an in-depth research essay that analyzes a specific topic in depth. It is completed under the supervision of an expert in the relevant area of study. Students develop their dissertation topic in collaboration with the supervisor. The dissertation is written and formatted in accordance with professional standards in the field of art history, including the proper

use of citations and a bibliography. The required length is 10,000 words, excluding notes and bibliography.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

CHINESE HISTORICAL STUDIES

PURPOSE

The MA in Chinese Historical Studies curriculum aims at providing students with the requisite knowledge and training to conduct independent research in Chinese history. It also caters for the continuing education needs of secondary school teachers in Chinese history and culture.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

The curriculum includes several semester-length courses in Chinese historical materials and methodology, Chinese historiography, and various topics related to the history and culture of imperial, modern and contemporary China.

Students in this curriculum are required to complete eight courses (4 core and 4 elective) and a dissertation. Coursework teaching is held from September of the first year until December of the following year. There are usually three sessions of two contact hours per week.

Ten courses will be selected from the following categories and be taught in each cycle.

Core Courses

CHIN6007 Imperial China: Thematic Studies (6 credits)

This course examines the political development of successive dynasties and their significance in the overall context of Chinese history. Major institutional establishments and cultural achievements of different historical periods will also be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6008 Republican and Communist China: Thematic Studies (6 credits)

This course examines the political, social and economic development of China in the twentieth century. Special attention is given to the themes of nationalism, revolution and modernization. It aims to show how present-day China has evolved from its recent past.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7005 New Approaches to Chinese History (6 credits)

This course attempts to explore the new research approaches and trends in Chinese history studies, especially after the rise of the “China-centered” approach in the US in the 1980s. Apart from assessing the academic achievements of the mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong, East Asia and the West, it also evaluates the roles and limitations of social theories and methods in Chinese historical studies. Scholars with different research interests and expertise will be invited to share their experience with the students in the lectures.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7006 An Introduction to Documentary Sources in Chinese (6 credits)

This course will appeal not only to students majoring in Chinese history but to students looking to incorporate Chinese sources into their research. Both academic knowledge and practical skills are emphasized across the course curriculum. The academic knowledge imparted ranges from explanations of the classification and circulation of traditional Chinese documents to an introduction to the ideas of noted bibliographers, the special features of major overseas Chinese collections and the latest research output on documentary sources in Chinese published by foreign scholars. In addition to demonstrating how to search different kinds of documentary resources, including Internet resources, the practical skills delivered include the ability to read primary historical documents. Students are also presented with case studies elaborating the use of documentary sources in pursuit of historical research.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7007 An Introduction to Archival Sources in Chinese (6 credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to the special features of archival sources in Chinese, and enable them to progress to a higher level of proficiency in undertaking Chinese historical studies. Both academic knowledge and practical use of these sources are emphasized across the course curriculum. The course starts with an introduction to the types, compilation and collection of archival sources in Chinese, and then assesses the experience of noted historians in using archival treasures for academic research and analyzes the construction of pre-modern to contemporary Chinese history through these sources, before concluding with a review of archival research in Hong Kong studies. It will demonstrate how to search the major archival collections deposited in local, national and overseas institutions and guide students in reading primary archival documents. Case studies elaborating the use of these sources in pursuit of historical research will also be provided.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Elective Courses

A History

CHIN6011 Education and Examination: the Chinese Experience (6 credits)

This course examines the history of the Chinese education and examination systems, surveys the changing thoughts about the relation of education, examination and talent nurturing, analyses the impacts of education and examination on politics, economics and society, and critically assesses the roles played by Western education and examination models in the modernization of China.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6012 Chinese Migration History: Inland and Overseas (6 credits)

This course examines the migration history of Chinese from ancient times to early twentieth century. Topics discussed include the backgrounds and motives of the migrants, the routes they took, their destinations, and their adaptations to their new homes. Special attention will be given to the emigrants of Qing China, their continuous conflicts with local residents, and how the problems they faced and the solutions they adopted reflect certain features of Chinese culture.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7002 Chinese Historiography (6 credits)

This course provides a broad and systematic overview of the origins and development of Chinese historiography. It examines in detail the teachings of leading Chinese historians and historiographers, both ancient and modern.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7008 Intellectual History of Pre-Qin China (6 credits)

This course investigates the origin and development of the pre-Qin Chinese thought. With an understanding of the contents and development of the pre-Qin Chinese thought, students can acquire a solid background in Chinese intellectual history and thereby can decipher the intellectual and cultural foundation behind the historical developments of China thereafter. The bulk of the course will be about the various schools of thought of the Eastern Zhou period. The course will center upon the four major pre-Qin schools of thought: Confucianism, Mohism, Daoism and Legalism. As a supplement, other minor schools of thought will also be covered.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7011 History education: the Chinese Experience (6 credits)

This course provides a broad and systematic overview of the origins and development of history education from ancient time to the present in China. It examines in detail the changing thoughts about history education and analyses the impacts of history education on different aspects of the society.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7012 The Historical Geography of China (6 credits)

This course is about historical geography of China. Imperial China was a big country with a vast territory. The highly diverse and complex terrain divided the country into many regions with different developments. The terrain characteristics also significantly influenced the decision on the selection of location for the capital and the administrative district planning in all dynasties. Besides, climate change was another major factor affecting agricultural activity, people's livelihood and also political stability. This course will review the influence of geography on political and economic developments in Imperial China. With an understanding of the above contents, students can understand the importance of the geographic factors in Chinese History.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7013 Hong Kong since 1842 (6 credits)

The aim of this course is to equip students with necessary knowledge on, and enhance their ability to pursue research on, the history of Hong Kong from the mid-19th to late-20th centuries. Political, diplomatic, social, cultural, educational and religious issues are introduced, and their interrelated connections discussed, from the historical perspective. Emphasis is placed on training students in the reading of first-hand Chinese historical sources.

Assessment: 100% coursework

B Culture

CHIN6301 Special Topics in Confucian Classics (6 credits)

Texts in the Confucian canon will be examined in great detail and their import highlighted.
Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6303 Special Topics in Chinese Thought and Chinese Literature (6 credits)

The intimate relation between Chinese thought and Chinese literature will be examined with reference to sample literary works.
Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6304 Special Topics in Chinese Culture (6 credits)

Chinese culture in its myriad forms will be studied, the emphasis being placed on its unique features and its impact on global developments.
Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6305 Special Topics in Chinese Bibliographical and Textual Studies (6 credits)

Bibliographies and texts of various types will be studied with the use of different methodological approaches.
Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7009 Traditional Chinese Thought and Its Modern Transformation (6 credits)

This course attempts to explore the characteristics of traditional Chinese thought, and investigate how it underwent a modern transformation in a period of rapid change in the nineteenth century. The course will analyze how the pre-modern Chinese mode of thinking in the political, economic, and social aspects was dominated by Confucianism and later Neo-Confucianism, and how it eventually transformed itself into the modern times under the challenges of Western learning in the late Qing. In addition, the contemporary meanings of those traditional ideas nowadays shared by the Chinese will also be discussed in the lectures.
Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7010 Modern Chinese Intellectual Trends and Intellectuals (6 credits)

This course explores the intellectual and cultural trends and the thoughts of the leading Chinese intellectuals in twentieth-century China. It is divided into two parts. The first part examines the intellectual fermentation from the late Qing to the Republican periods. The second part analyzes the thoughts of the intellectuals under the domination of Communist ideology from 1949 to the reform era. It covers the establishment of a modern education system modelled upon the West, the decline of traditional Confucian culture, Chinese elite and their thoughts after the May Fourth Movement, and the intellectual development under the Communist rule. Some best-known historical figures will be selected for case study.
Assessment: 100% coursework

Capstone Experience

CHIN7999 Capstone Experience: Dissertation in Chinese Historical Studies (12 credits)

The dissertation should normally be around 20,000-30,000 characters in Chinese or 10,000-15,000 words in English. It should be submitted by the end of June of the second year of study. A topic should be submitted for approval by the end of June of the first year of study. On approval of the dissertation topic, a supervisor will be assigned to each candidate.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Assessments

Courses are assessed by coursework as specified in the descriptions of individual courses. Coursework assessment is based on essays, term papers, projects, tests, or other kinds of oral or written work as prescribed by the course instructors.

Medium of Instruction

Courses will be generally conducted in Cantonese but a number of them may be taught in Putonghua.

CHINESE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

PURPOSE

The curriculum aims to explore topics of interest in the field of Chinese Studies, to familiarize students with the latest trends in and the methodological approaches to the study of Chinese Language and Chinese Literature and to prepare them to engage in independent scholarly activities by honing their research and presentation skills.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Students in this curriculum are required to complete 8 elective courses and a capstone experience (dissertation), i.e. to complete 60 credits in 4 consecutive semesters. Teaching and assessment are held from September of the first academic year until August of the second academic year. There is one session of two contact hours per week for each elective course.

16 elective courses will be selected from the following 4 categories and be offered in each cycle.

A Chinese Language

CHIN6101 Special Topics in Chinese Etymology (6 credits)

The course is composed of three parts. The first part focuses on Chinese paleographic sources and their application. On the basis of fundamental etymological theories, an in-depth introduction to the recently excavated paleographic sources will be provided, with emphasis on the synthesis between excavated sources and transmitted texts so as to examine the methods and theories relating to the utilization of paleographic sources in the historical and cultural studies of early China. The second part will introduce to students the essential features of the Chinese characters, the principles underlying their constructions, and the process of their evolution. The third part aims to examine the characteristics of the modern Chinese writing system and its functions in connection with the rapid

changing modern world. In ancient Chinese, most words were monosyllabic and there was a close correspondence between characters and words. In modern Chinese, characters do not necessarily correspond to words, and a character almost always corresponds to a single syllable that is also a morpheme. As the Chinese scripts underwent many changes over the course of time, the present-day standard script (kaishu) is written in strokes and has lost most of its pictorial quality which can be founded in the earliest writing.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6102 Special Topics in Chinese Phonology (6 credits)

This course gives a thorough investigation into the distinctive characteristics of the history of Chinese phonology. Apart from rhyme books and rhyme tables which have large significance on the reconstruction of Middle Chinese, recently excavated phonological resources do provide researchers with valuable materials for the study of both Old and Middle Chinese. Key issues including the nature of *Qieyun*, the principles of rhyme tables as well as sound changes from Middle Chinese to Modern Standard Chinese and Cantonese will be examined with emphasis on the application of excavated phonological resources. Traditional and recent scholarly research on Chinese phonology will also be introduced.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6104 Special Topics in Ancient Chinese (6 credits)

Ancient Chinese is a written form of the classical language used by the Han nationality. This course will provide students with a comprehensive introduction to a broad range of significant topics and issues in the research of ancient Chinese. Research areas highlighted in the course will include Chinese lexicology, semantics, grammar, exegetics, and etymology. Aside from synchronic discussions on the language, this course places particular focus on a diachronic analysis of the language characteristics as revealed by sources from different historical periods, aiming to explore and examine the internal principles and rules governing the language development and changes. After completing this course, students are expected to have profound understanding on the language system of ancient Chinese, enabling them to enhance their capability in reading classical Chinese texts and lay a solid foundation for further research in Chinese philology and linguistics.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6105 Special Topics in Modern Chinese (6 credits)

This course introduces and examines a number of special topics in modern Chinese. The selected topics, including the characteristics of Chinese language, ambiguity in modern Chinese, and Chinese language, society and culture, will be comprehensively discussed from various perspectives including etymology, grammar, lexicology, pragmatics and rhetoric. Issues like the special features and common features of modern Chinese, the overlapping of linguistic form and meaning, the mutual relationship and interaction between Chinese language and society/culture, and the development and usage of modern Chinese are explored and analyzed with relevant examples. After completion of this course, students will have a concrete and in-depth understanding of the characteristics, usage, and social and cultural embodiment of modern Chinese.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7102 Studies in Cantonese (6 credits)

Cantonese, being a language with a long history, has close relationship with ancient Chinese language and a few minority languages. Modern Cantonese is thus different from Modern Standard Chinese and

other Chinese dialects in phonological, lexical and syntactic aspects. Based on a fundamental understanding of the history of Yue dialects, a number of issues in Cantonese concerning its pronunciation, written forms, cultural elements as well as its application in modern society will be discussed in this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

B Chinese Literature

CHIN6201 Special Topics in Classical Poetry (6 credits)

The course mainly introduces classical poetry which is based on the study of the prominent Chinese poet Du Fu, 712-770. In the introduction, students will learn to distinguish the definition of poetry (shi) and song (ge). The forms and prosody of ancient-style poetry (gu-ti shi) and modern-style poetry (jin-ti shi) are also introduced. In the monograph, the course discusses about Du Fu's Confucianism and explains the three respects of Du Fu: Sage of Poetry/Poet-sage (shi sheng), History of Verse/Poet-historian (shi shi), and Sage of Love (qing sheng). The course will also analyse the themes, styles, forms and subject-matter of Du Fu's poetry based on Du Fu's master pieces. The last section of the course is about the reception of Du Fu and his poetry from mid-Tang to Qing and the reinvention of the poet in modern times.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6202 Special Topics in *ci* and *qu* Verse (6 credits)

This course comprises two parts. The first part provides a general survey of *ci* poetry from its beginning in the Tang period to the Qing period, with special emphasis on origin, generic features, stylistic schools, principal exponents, and historical development. The diverse forms and styles are examined through discussion of selected works taken from the most representative as well as best known authors. As a postgraduate level course, students will be introduced to key contributions to the academic study of *ci* and be expected to become familiar with scholarly debates in *ci* research during class discussion and be able to refer to them in the completion of assessment exercises. The second part of this course focuses on the rich theatrical traditions flourishing during the Yuan, Ming, and Qing periods and the methods used to approach these traditions. It helps students use the major collections of the Yuan variety plays and Southern plays, the Ming and Qing *chuanqi* plays, theories of theatrics, and records of the Qing regional popular theater. It also helps students develop skills of interpreting the best-known works and engage in current scholarly discussions, with an aim of helping them develop their own research interests that can enrich these discussions.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6203 Special Topics in Ancient Prose (6 credits)

The course consists of two parts. The first part traces the development of prose in ancient China and selects famous pieces from *Zuo Zhuan*, *Guo Yu*, *Zhanguo Ce*, *Shiji*, etc. for detailed analysis and discussion. The second part focuses on a critical appreciation and thorough discussion of representative pieces of prose by Han Yu, one of the most famous and important prose writers in the Tang dynasty.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6208 Special Topics in Modern and Contemporary Literature (6 credits)

This course will introduce and examine special topics in modern and contemporary literature in Chinese with emphasis on historical and cultural context, artistic achievement, as well as the influence

of western thoughts. Selected works will be analyzed and commented with reference to literary theories and background contexts. A series of topics including the complicated relationship between Chinese literature and politics in the twentieth century, the evolution of realism and development of modernism, Romanticism, New Historicism etc., will be discussed. The objectives of this course are to initiate critical discussion of writers, works and literature phenomena of modern and contemporary literature that arouse students' attention to the particularities and development of Chinese literature, and to develop students' analyzing ability.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6209 Studies in Literary Creation (6 credits)

This course aims to cultivate students to produce original works of modern poem and prose. The mechanics of literary creation will be explored in the light of modern literary theories. This course consists of two parts: (1) Introduction to the development of Chinese contemporary poems, the language and rhythm of modern poem, the writing skill of modern poem including metaphor, image, symbol, irony and dramatization. (2) Introduction to the development of Chinese contemporary prose, the artistic features of prose, the writing skill of narrative prose, lyric prose and argumentative prose. Selected works of representative contemporary poets and prose writers will be closely examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7105 Studies in Classical Chinese Fiction (6 credits)

This course offers an in-depth survey of classical Chinese fiction. Through an overview of its origin and evolution, the characteristics, content and artistic merit of classical Chinese fiction in various historical periods will be analyzed. Selected topics in and representative pieces of traditional Chinese fictional narratives, including Wei-Jin biji novels (literary sketches), Tang chuanqi (short tales), Song and Yuan huaben (script for storytelling), Ming and Qing niहुaben (short novels written in the style of scripts for storytelling), zhanghui novels (novels in chapter format) and short novels, will be deeply examined with attention to traditional and recent scholarship so as to familiarize students with the development, defining characteristics as well as the current status of research of classical Chinese fiction.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7106 Studies in Literature from Hong Kong and Taiwan (6 credits)

This course will introduce and examine the 20th century Hong Kong and Taiwanese literature through representative writers and their works in various forms like novels, poetry and critical texts, with particular discussions on the social, cultural and historical issues arising from modern Hong Kong and Taiwan contexts, e.g. the quest for a Hong Kong identity, the urban imagination of Hong Kong, the handover of 1997, the major intellectual currents and literary movements/debates including realism, modernism, nativism, the debates surrounding Taiwanese identity and the periodization of Taiwanese history, and the notions of postcolonialism and postmodernism. Selected works will be analyzed and commented with reference to literary theories and background contexts, and investigated through the critical engagement of recent academic scholarship. The issues from literary communication, sinophone studies, minor literature in relation to the context of Hong Kong and Taiwanese literature will also be explored.

Assessment: 100% coursework

C Chinese Culture

CHIN6301 Special Topics in Confucian Classics (6 credits)

The course is composed of three parts. The first part focuses on the *Book of Documents, Shujing*, a collection of rhetorical prose attributed to figures of ancient China and served as the foundation of Chinese political philosophy for over 2,000 years. The political philosophy originated in the Zhou period, which had formulated the key belief that became fundamental to Chinese thought until nowadays, will be examined. The second part thoroughly examines the intense debates over the authenticity of *Zuo Zhuan* with comparison of *Guo Yu*, another ancient book of the Spring and Autumn period. The authorship, style and nature of *Zuo Zhuan* will also be discussed. The third part focuses on *Lun Yu* or the *Analects*, widely considered as the most reliable record of the Confucius' conversations with his contemporaries in the past. The authenticity and documentation issues of the *Analects* will be examined in depth. The image of Confucius as well as his ideas will also be discussed through analysis of selected passages from the *Analects*.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN6304 Special Topics in Chinese Culture (6 credits)

This course comprises two parts. The first part will examine and analyze traditional Chinese culture in different dimensions, including political, religious, ethnic, social, etc. With regard to politics, the reasons why autocracy appeared to become a long-term political policy after unity of dynastic China in 221 BC will be explored. In the field of religion, the Chinese folk beliefs and personification of folk gods and goddess will be discussed. China's continuous communication with ethnic minorities such as the Hun, Turk, Tubo, Uyghur, Jurchen, Mongolian, etc. and the interchange of material civilization as well as cultural is also an interesting topic to investigate. In addition, the influences of orthodox theories and Confucianism on gender equality, female status and power, chastity concept, and homosexuality will be reviewed. The second part of this course is an in-depth study in Chinese culture by looking into humble and tangible topics such as practices in cuisine, imagery, hunting, inheritance and various other customs. Observing the customary practices by common people yields more perspectives. The discussed topics can map the transformation of traditional and mainstream Chinese culture in face of challenges from Chinese regional, foreign and modern cultures.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7006 An Introduction to Documentary Sources in Chinese (6 credits)

This course will appeal not only to students majoring in Chinese history but to students looking to incorporate Chinese sources into their research. Both academic knowledge and practical skills are emphasized across the course curriculum. The academic knowledge imparted ranges from explanations of the classification and circulation of traditional Chinese documents to an introduction to the ideas of noted bibliographers, the special features of major overseas Chinese collections and the latest research output on documentary sources in Chinese published by foreign scholars. In addition to demonstrating how to search different kinds of documentary resources, including Internet resources, the practical skills delivered include the ability to read primary historical documents. Students are also presented with case studies elaborating the use of documentary sources in pursuit of historical research.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7008 Intellectual History of Pre-Qin China (6 credits)

This course investigates the origin and development of the pre-Qin Chinese thought. With an understanding of the contents and development of the pre-Qin Chinese thought, students can acquire a

solid background in Chinese intellectual history and thereby can decipher the intellectual and cultural foundation behind the historical developments of China thereafter. The bulk of the course will be about the various schools of thought of the Eastern Zhou period. The course will center upon the four major pre-Qin schools of thought: Confucianism, Mohism, Daoism and Legalism. As a supplement, other minor schools of thought will also be covered.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7009 Traditional Chinese Thought and Its Modern Transformation (6 credits)

This course attempts to explore the characteristics of traditional Chinese thought, and investigate how it underwent a modern transformation in a period of rapid change in the nineteenth century. The course will analyze how the pre-modern Chinese mode of thinking in the political, economic, and social aspects was dominated by Confucianism and later Neo-Confucianism, and how it eventually transformed itself into the modern times under the challenges of Western learning in the late Qing. In addition, the contemporary meanings of those traditional ideas nowadays shared by the Chinese will also be discussed in the lectures.

Assessment: 100% coursework

D Seminar

CHIN7104 Seminar: Studies in Chinese Language and Literature (6 credits)

This seminar course comprises two parts. The first part introduces the methodology and skills of raising an academic issue or setting a topic for discussion in the field of Chinese language and literature as well as the organization and presentation of findings or personal viewpoints. Examples will be provided for elaboration and students' reference. In the second part, students will think about and raise an issue individually, and present their findings respectively in both oral and written form for comment, discussion as well as interchange of ideas and information with their peers and teachers at scheduled sessions.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Capstone Experience

CHIN7995 Capstone Experience: Dissertation in Chinese Language and Literature (12 credits)

In addition to the elective courses, students are required to complete a dissertation as a capstone experience. In their second academic year of study, each of them will be assigned a dissertation adviser in October and has to submit a dissertation topic for approval in April of the following year. They meet with their advisers and write their dissertations under one-to-one supervision. The dissertation, which should be a minimum of 10,000 characters in Chinese or 8,000 words in English, should be submitted by August 1 of the second academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Medium of Instruction

Courses will be conducted in Cantonese or Putonghua.

ENGLISH STUDIES

The MA in English Studies has a cross-cultural focus and this unique curriculum is designed to take advantage of Hong Kong's historical, geographical and political position. Each course considers different aspects of theories, languages and literatures of cross-cultural exchange especially with respect to East-West, post-colonial and global situations.

The main objective of the curriculum in English Studies is to interrogate, challenge and develop theories of language and literature as critical insight into the contemporary world, and to give expression to this understanding in oral and written assignments, culminating in a capstone experience. To this end, each course involves an appreciation of relevant theories and approaches and armed with these, encourages critical responses to cultural practice in its various representational and linguistic forms, which may include fiction, poetry, film, advertising, travel writing, spoken, written and multimodal discourse. This involves not only an understanding of how English might be used in different linguistic communities, but also an understanding of important contemporary debates concerning culture, politics, ideology and language.

The MA in English Studies consists of two introductory courses (9 credits each), four seminar courses (6 credits each), and a capstone experience (18 credits) in the form of a final research project and a conference paper. The MA can be studied in full-time or in part-time mode. Part-time candidates will take two parallel courses per semester (12 weeks) over the first three semesters, and complete a final capstone course in the fourth semester. Full-time candidates will take four courses in the first semester, and an additional two courses in the second semester, along with the capstone experience. Four seminars with a literary focus and four with a linguistics focus will be offered every year. While part-time students follow a fixed curriculum with half of their courses in Literature and half in Linguistics, full-time students may choose to take all their seminar courses in one stream if they wish to specialise in either Linguistics or Literature. With at least three courses and the capstone successfully completed in one stream, students' transcripts will indicate the respective specialisation ('MA in English Studies [Literature]', 'MA in English Studies [Linguistics]'). The option to specialise is not offered to part-time students whose transcript will read 'MA in English Studies'. Courses for part-time students will be offered in the evening, while full-time students will take courses during the day and in the evenings. Each session may consist of a lecture, workshop, students' presentations, or other form of in-class learning. Student participation in all courses is required.

Not all elective courses listed below will necessarily be offered each year.

1. Core Courses

ENGL6073 Introduction to Literature and Cross-cultural Theory (9 credits)

The theme of cross-cultural study is implicit in all of the courses in the MA in English Studies. This foundation course prepares students by introducing them to the historical development of literature by studying different authors and genres within diverse cultural contexts. Traditional, western literature will be read alongside other 'national' and world literatures from post-colonial and global contexts to examine the sense of interconnectedness between various genres, movements and time periods. The primary texts will be supported by the work of critics who have tried to formalize cross-cultural relations through particular historical, ethnographic, literary and linguistic studies of cultural interaction. This might include work by Benedict Anderson, Homi Bhabha, Frantz Fanon, Mary Louise Pratt, Edward Said, and others.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL7101 Introduction to Language and Communication (9 credits)

This course introduces students to core research areas within the field of language and communication, with a focus on theories, approaches and applications drawn from sociolinguistics. Contemporary issues such as globalisation, language spread, and bi/multilingualism will be discussed. Key themes addressed in the course include: culture, ideology, identity, language policy, varieties of English, World Englishes and global Englishes. To facilitate introduction to these themes, the course will present students with basic knowledge in linguistics and sociolinguistic theory and approaches, as well as empirical examples drawn from the literature. Based on these insights, students will regularly be encouraged to bring along their own examples of linguistic data, to discuss and interpret in class.

Assessment: 100% coursework

2. Elective Courses

Linguistics

ENGL6056 Cultural Semiotics (6 credits)

This course will examine culture as a complex web of signifying systems and practices. It will look at different concepts of culture and consider their accessibility to semiotic theory and analysis. After an introduction to semiotic terminology, time will be given to the investigation of different spheres of cultural activity, analysing the meanings of images, bodies, objects, spaces, sounds, etc., and the configurations and practices that underpin them. The interdisciplinary nature of cultural semiotics, its relevance to society and its limitations will also be addressed. The course will focus mostly on aspects of contemporary urban culture as it exists in places like Hong Kong, but attention will also be given to cross-cultural comparisons and intercultural relations.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL6075 The Politics of English (6 credits)

This course examines the contemporary politics of English, looking at debates over local and regional cultural identities, English as the language of modernity and social mobility, English as a “killer language” within linguistic imperialism, cross-cultural discourse and globalization. The historical roots of the rise of English will be traced, and its current world-wide profile analyzed, with special reference to the sharply divergent attitudes found in socio-political debate. Special reference will be made to English in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL7102 Global Englishes (6 credits)

At the turn of the century, the globalisation of world trade and culture has led to the global spread of English. While the social, political and economic complexities brought about by globalisation have established the contemporary place of English as the world’s primary international language, there are some crucial and controversial issues that need critical analysis, particularly as regards the persistent exonormative model of Standard English, non-standard variations in New Englishes or postcolonial Englishes, the emergent variant forms of ‘glocal’ Englishes in the so-called Expanding Circle, i.e. what is commonly referred to as English as a Lingua Franca (EFL), and ‘Translingua Franca English’ (TFE) as the fluid social processes that includes all global uses of English. Students in this course will critically examine this polycentric development of English today and the current academic debate on the ideology of Standard English, the discourses of postcolonialism, the relationship between language and power, the attitudes to and the linguistic rights of non-native speakers of English, and

the future of English.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL7103 New Media and Discourse (6 credits)

This course offers a contemporary approach to key concepts in mediated communication within the field of language and new media, with a focus on media as language use. With a strong emphasis on the anthropological and social dimensions of mass communication, the course encourages students to consider the ways in which media discourse is different from everyday face-to-face interactions and critically reflect upon the ways in which media technologies extend human language capabilities. Key themes addressed in the course include: the discursive practices and performances that are taking place within the new media environments, the uneven distribution of technology across the globe, ideologies and semiotic resources deployed in (re)producing certain discourses by different social groups, the exploration of the ways in which new media are localised into everyday practices and performances of social actors in their diverse geographical localities. To facilitate introduction to these themes, the course will present students with a series of theories and approaches drawn from language and media studies. So as to also develop their analytical skills, students will be encouraged to carry out their own investigations, i.e. to complete a personal media and communications audit, then to reflect on what new media mean for them and for accomplishing artful/playful discursive practices and performances.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL7105 Intercultural Communication (6 credits)

The forces of globalization have impacted the social, cultural, political and linguistic aspects of communities around the world. Their effects can be seen in the complexity of communications taking place between speakers from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. This course presents an overview of relevant concepts, theories and approaches to intercultural communication. We will survey the interdisciplinary sources of inquiry into culture and cultural difference, compare models and approaches to the study of intercultural encounters, and analyze specific examples of intercultural communication using research from diverse, multilingual contexts. The course draws on concepts from a range of disciplines, including communications, sociolinguistics, anthropology, social psychology and organizational communication.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Literature

ENGL6079 World Modernisms (6 credits)

'Modernism', as a movement in literature and the other arts, is traditionally studied in national or regional contexts, predominantly from a Eurocentric perspective. This course will pursue the idea of a "world modernism", by looking at selected works of fiction and visual culture from around the world, between (roughly) 1900 and 1950, written in English or translated into English. How differently do these works respond to modernity, and how do they relate to each other -- by influence, and shared or contrasted preoccupations or procedures -- in the network of "world modernisms"?

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL6080 Travel Writing and Culture (6 credits)

Cross-cultural or intercultural issues are necessarily central to most travel writing. This course explores such issues in a wide range of travel narratives by writers from the medieval period to the

present day. The approach is more thematic than historical and themes covered will include travel and imperialism, East-West meetings, mapping self and nation, mobilization of knowledge, postcolonial journeys and travels in globality.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL6081 Global Fictions (6 credits)

Since its inception, the novel has maintained a close relationship with nation. A cohesive time-space can be identified where the narrator's point of view and that of an implied reader coincide with the interests of an identifiable country or region. But after cross-cultural journeys and globalization, how strong is the idea of the nation in the public imagination? To what extent is the idea of national belonging weakened, and what kind of transnational affinities are being engendered? Where are the power lines of this transnationalism? Should we be worried about losing the protection of the nation state? What new possibilities arise for cultural production?

This course explores some of these questions through fictions that emphasise the transnational, moving beyond socio-geographical boundaries of nation. While we will consider how postcolonial, postmodern and world literatures might give rise to global fictions, we will also see if there is evidence of a newly emerging cultural form.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL6083 Post-Colonial Representations (6 credits)

This course will examine a fundamental issue in post-colonial studies: Representation. This issue will be examined through its various forms, including Gender, Race, Culture, from the perspective of critical, fictional and visual texts.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL7104 Global Shakespeare (6 credits)

The course seeks to introduce students to Shakespeare's plays and their many afterlives across the globe. It examines how and why Shakespeare has become a global phenomenon, performed and studied from Asia to Africa, the Pacific to the Balkans. What is it about the plays that inspires such global interest? What aspects of Shakespeare have been emphasised in different times and contexts? And how have the language and emotions of early modern England been translated into distant cultures?

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL7106 The Global History of English (6 credits)

The English language began as a set of obscure dialects on an island at the edge of the world. Today, it is spoken by almost two billion people, and functions as the lingua franca of a vast global network. But the history of English before the twentieth century is also a global story: one involving international politics, power, religion, technology, commerce, music and literature, the oppressor and the oppressed. This course examines the history of the English from its Proto-Indo-European roots to the nineteenth century as a language shaped and changed by global forces. The course begins at the end, with early nineteenth-century English, and traces the language back through the centuries, and through a range of textual forms and formats. It has a particular focus on the external forces of politics, religion, war and language interaction that influenced English, and on the role played by the imported

technologies of writing and printing. How has English changed over the centuries—and what international influences have governed this change?

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL7107 Race in America: The Novels of William Faulkner and Toni Morrison (6 credits)

In this course, we will examine the works of two Nobel Prize-winning American authors and examine their explorations of American identity, American culture, in particular racial conflict in America. Reading several novels by William Faulkner and Toni Morrison, we will attempt to construct a conversation between the works of these very different authors, who nonetheless share many of the same concerns and narrative strategies. Active class participation, close readings of the primary texts and various critical readings, an oral presentation, and a final research essay will be required.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ENGL7108 Imagining Asia (6 credits)

This course will explore the way several different British and American writers have imagined Asia in their literary texts. We will examine both the similarities and the differences in the way Asia and Asians are represented in texts that span the twentieth century, span the continent, and challenge one another in their various perspectives. In addition, we will read several post-colonial theorists as a tool for understanding with more nuance and depth the contested notions of what constitutes the East and the West and the dynamic relationships between them that are presented in these texts.

Assessment: 100% coursework

3. Capstone Experience

ENGL7998 Capstone Experience: Final Research Project (18 credits)

Each student will develop and present a final research project on a literary or linguistic topic as part of the fulfilment of the requirements for the MA degree. Students will have the opportunity to pursue their own research interests under the supervision of a teacher who will utilise class-time to a) provide in-depth instructions surrounding the capstone experience; b) provide core knowledge surrounding the production of the final research project (e.g., templates for writing extended essays, guidelines on formulating aims and research questions); and c) provide individual guidance to students so as to help them to formulate a topic and scope the research, to suggest reading, and to review plans and draft chapters. Class time will thus consist of discussions on research methods, theoretical considerations, and presentation skills. The project proposal must be submitted for approval by the beginning of the second semester for full-time MA students, and by the beginning of the fourth semester for part-time MA students. Students are expected to spend much of their time on independent research and writing. The Capstone Experience will culminate in three major research outputs: 1) an extended essay of ca. 2,000 words on their project; 2) a creative output on their project (e.g., poster, film); and 3) the presentation of this creative output at an MAES conference. Full-time students who select to specialise in either linguistics or literature, need to complete the capstone final project in their respective area of specialisation.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Assessment

Each course is examined through coursework assessment based on class participation, presentations and written assignments.

LINGUISTICS

The objectives of the curriculum are:

1. To engage students in the field of linguistics, including its scientific, social and human aspects.
2. To offer postgraduate level education to those who wish to engage as professionals in the study of languages, bilingualism and multilingualism.
3. To train postgraduate students to conduct research on human language, its theories, empirical methods and applications.

Courses

Candidates must take 2 core courses, 5 elective courses and the capstone experience during the course of study. The candidates must pass the core courses during the period of study.

1. Core Courses

LING7004 Phonetics and Phonology (6 credits)

This course introduces students to two areas of study of the speech sounds of language, phonetics and phonology. In phonetics, students acquire the knowledge of (i) the articulatory and acoustic properties of the speech sound segments, including consonants, glides, vowels, and diphthongs, and (ii) the prosodic characteristics of the suprasegments, such as duration, pitch and stress, associated with the syllables. Students acquire the skills of (i) IPA transcription and (ii) speech analysis, using instruments. In phonology, students learn about (i) the patterns of speech sound systems and (ii) the phonological properties and linguistic functions of the sound segments and suprasegments. Students are required to analyze phonological data, solve phonological problems, and formulate phonological rules.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING7005 Grammar: Theories and Applications (6 credits)

This course aims at introducing students to the basic concepts in morphology and syntax. Exercises accompany the topics introduced. Example analyses are drawn from various languages. The following topics in morphology and syntax will be covered: wordhood, word classes, constituency, phrase structure, grammatical relations, semantic roles, and sentence types. The course provides a grounding in grammatical concepts useful for further study in grammatical theory, typology and other areas of linguistics.

Assessment: 100% coursework

2. Elective Courses

LING6013 Data-Driven Linguistic Analysis (6 credits)

This course offers students training in the latest data-based approaches in linguistic analysis. Different kinds of linguistic data and their theoretical status are first presented, followed by a discussion of the methods currently being used for constructing natural language corpora. Topics including corpus design and annotation, the sampling and retrieval of information from language corpora, and their use in linguistic analysis are discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6014 The History and Structure of Cantonese (6 credits)

This course offers a wide-ranging account of Cantonese in all of its major facets: its origins, historical development, phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexis, as well as dialectal and social variation. Recent advances in research on Cantonese will also be discussed and reviewed.
Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6017 Language Development and Language Behavior (6 credits)

The aims of this course are to introduce students to some research methods employed in the study of language acquisition and language behavior, and to assess the significance of research results in these fields. The main topics to be covered include: stages of language development, reading acquisition, second language learning, language and reading disorders, and the influences of writing systems on language processing.
Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6019 Grammar and Interaction (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the recent advances in the study of the interface between linguistic structure (grammar) and human interaction (spontaneous communication). It focuses on issues of the identity of basic interactional units and how syntax, prosody, semantics and conversational structure shape one another in naturally occurring talk. Topics include: Syntax of sentences in progress, Adverbial clauses in conversation, Repair and syntax, Conversational turns and their extension.
Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6020 Advanced Topics in Psycholinguistics (6 credits)

This course will examine issues concerning how language is acquired and processed in the mind. Advanced research topics to be covered in this course are as follows: brain and language development, language and thought, mental systems for words, word segmentation in Chinese and English, dyslexia, language disorders. There will also be practical laboratory classes.
Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6021 Language Types and Universals (6 credits)

This course introduces linguistic typology as an approach to language structure based inductively on investigation of a wide range of languages. It does not require knowledge of many languages, although some knowledge of a language such as German or Japanese is a useful asset. The course includes applications of typology in the field of language acquisition.
Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6022 Reading Acquisition and Developmental Dyslexia (6 credits)

This course aims to provide a theoretical understanding of reading development and reading disorders in different writing systems, with a specific focus on alphabetic (English) and logographic (Chinese) writing systems. Through attending the course, students will be able to understand how different cognitive processes contribute to the development of skilled word reading and text comprehension and what problems children may encounter during the course of reading development. Effective treatment and instruction approaches will also be discussed.
Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6023 Researching Language in Hong Kong (6 credits)

This course introduces students to contemporary research on languages issues with special reference to the study of language and linguistics in Hong Kong. This course will survey recent research on the languages of the HKSAR, and discuss how language research may be critically read and interpreted, with particular attention to research design and methodology. The central aim of the course is to help students to understand the techniques of quantitative and qualitative research, with case studies relevant to Hong Kong. It will be of special interest to students intending to carry out locally-based research for their dissertation.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6028 Topics in Language Acquisition (6 credits)

The course introduces current linguistic approaches to language acquisition in bilingual and multilingual contexts. Topics will include the acquisition of Cantonese and English by bilingual children; acquisition of English as second language by Chinese speakers, and vice versa; and the acquisition of a third or additional language by bilinguals. The course is particularly suitable for those with some experience of language teaching.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6029 Current Issues in Linguistics (6 credits)

In this course current issues in different sub-fields of linguistics are discussed, with an emphasis on new approaches, methodologies and findings. The topics may vary from year to year but will include a selection from such major fields of research as linguistic theory, sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6030 Language Evolution (6 credits)

This course will provide a general introduction to evolutionary linguistics. Following an interdisciplinary perspective, the course will introduce fundamental concepts of some relevant disciplines that could shed light on language origin and evolution, including archaeology and anthropology, comparative studies of humans and other animals, genetics, neuro- and psycholinguistics, and computer simulation.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6031 Multilingualism (6 credits)

This course provides a broad overview of issues pertinent to multilingualism, with an emphasis on the linguistic, social and cultural diversity of multilingual societies. Theories and approaches to the study of multilingualism will be illustrated by different multilingual settings around the world, covering Hong Kong and Asia among other contexts. Topics related to the linguistic consequences of multilingualism include code-switching, language change, as well as language contact and creolization. We also look at educational issues involving multilingualism and how they are resolved.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING6032 Semantics (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the linguistic study of meaning. It focuses on the meaning of signs and the relation between signifiers and what they stand for. Topics to be examined include both traditional and current approaches to lexical and sentence meaning. The role of semantics in the language system will be addressed. Central problems and theoretical concepts of Semantics will be discussed, with illustration from a variety of languages.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING7006 Readings in Linguistics (6 credits)

In this course students read a selection of current works in an area of interest to the student under direction from a supervisor. The course is suitable for those who have a specific research area which they wish to explore. Students are expected to write critical reviews of works they have read, and/or to compile a literature review. The work is intended to prepare the ground for a dissertation in the chosen area.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING7007 The Sound Patterns of Language: Phonological Theory and Analysis (6 credits)

Why is English so hard for a Cantonese speaker to pronounce? The sounds of each language are organized by different principles: English allows consonant clusters at word edges (as in strengths) while Cantonese does not. Each human language has its own phonology, a set of principles for organizing its sounds into a unique signature for that language. This course addresses phonological systems from a variety of perspectives. Objectives include teaching the following:

- a. an overview of common types of phonological phenomena;
- b. analytic tools for determining the phonological patterns found in a given language;
- c. theoretical grounding in order to interpret the results of an analysis;
- d. argumentation logic to evaluate the validity of analyses;
- e. presentation skills for both oral and written professional presentations.

Thus, the primary focus is on analytic, argumentation, and presentation skills, set against the backdrop of phonological systems.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING7008 Language and Speech Sounds: Acoustic and Articulatory Phonetics (6 credits)

When speaking, people tend not to actively think about the sounds that make up their language. The task of listening to and producing speech sounds seems so effortless and automatic for native speakers of a language that it can often be one of the most challenging obstacles for the non-native learner to overcome. Contemporary inquiry into the nature of human speech sounds, however, reveals a complex system of phonetic knowledge that language users must use to navigate their linguistic environment. This course introduces students to the nature of speech production and perception and to the properties of the acoustic signal that is transmitted from speaker to listener. Goals of this course are:

- a. To understand fundamental principles of phonetic theory and phonetic representation. We will look at current theories of the complicated tasks accomplished by speakers and listeners and arrive at a representation of speech sounds in terms of their articulatory, acoustic and perceptual properties.

- b. To introduce students to techniques of phonetic experimentation and modeling. Small-scale experiments will provide training in physiologic measurement, acoustic analysis, and perceptual-data analysis, and reinforce theoretical principles by serving as empirical tests of claims made by such theories.
- c. To reflect on the relationship between the physical instantiation of speech and its representation in the mind. Our exploration of this issue will serve as a bridge between phonetics and phonology.
- d. To provide practical experience in hearing, producing, and transcribing sounds of the world's languages. Such experience can prepare students for field research on poorly documented or under-described languages or for work involving populations who speak different languages.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING7009 Language Structure for Teaching and Learning Languages (6 credits)

Learning a foreign language can be daunting; teaching a foreign language to bewildered students can be frustrating. This course is for the teacher and learner alike; we will look at general properties of how language is structured -- both generically and through specific examples -- starting with the sounds that make up languages and moving to how those sounds form word, how those words form sentences, and how those sentences are interpreted to have both specific and contextual meanings.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LING7010 Introduction to speech prosody (6 credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of speech prosody, i.e. aspects of speech above vowels and consonants. We will explore topics such as: tone, rhythm, question and emotion with a particular focus on English, Mandarin and Cantonese. The course will consist of lectures and hands on lab experience, with an aim to increase students' theoretical and practical knowledge of prosody and its applications for further research, teaching and beyond.

Pre-requisite: LING7004 Phonetics and Phonology

Assessment: 100% coursework

3. Capstone Experience

LING7999 Capstone Experience: Dissertation (18 credits)

All candidates should write and submit a dissertation. A topic should be submitted for approval by April 1 of the academic year. On approval of the dissertation topic, a supervisor will be assigned to each candidate. The dissertation, which should normally be between 12,000 and 15,000 words in length, should be submitted by August 1 of the academic year.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Assessment

Courses are assessed by 100% coursework. Coursework assessment is based on essays, term papers, projects, oral presentations, quizzes, and other kinds of oral or written work as prescribed by the course instructors.

LITERARY AND CULTURAL STUDIES

The MA in Literary and Cultural Studies (MALCS) introduces students to a wide range of theoretical, literary and filmic texts, exploring historical and contemporary issues within modernity and globalization. The curriculum consists of 7 courses and a capstone experience in the form of a dissertation or an equivalent project, and will be offered in a full-time (1-year) and part-time (2-year) mode. The maximum period of registration for full-time and part-time students is 2 academic years and 3 academic years respectively, which is subject to the approval of the Board of the Faculty on recommendation of the MALCS Programme Chairperson.

An interdisciplinary approach will be adopted in the curriculum. All our courses are largely shaped by critical and cultural theory, and look at texts, for example film and literature, through the perspectives of post-structuralism, deconstruction, psychoanalysis, feminism and Marxist and post-colonial criticism. Teaching will be in English.

The objectives of the MA in Literary and Cultural Studies are:

1. To broaden and deepen students' knowledge of cultural theories and different approaches in literature, film and cultural studies.
2. To cultivate critical thinking through engagement with the key debates in literary, film and cultural studies.
3. To encourage appreciation of diverse cultural practices and contexts within a global frame, with emphasis on but not limited to those of Hong Kong, modern Chinese, and Asian cultures.
4. To develop skills in critical analysis necessary to carry out independent research in the field of literary, film, and cultural studies.
5. To provide the knowledge and enhance the skills required for advanced degrees and/or enhancement in arts, cultural writing and other creative practices.

Coursework teaching conforms to the undergraduate teaching year. For full-time students, the capstone experience must be completed by **August 1** in the academic year of study and its title should be submitted for approval by **March 1** of that year. For part-time students, the capstone experience must be submitted by **August 1** in the second academic year of the study, and its title should be submitted for approval by **March 1** of that year.

The semester courses offered by the curriculum may vary from time to time. For full-time students, one core course and three electives will be taken in the first semester, and three electives will be taken in the second semester of the academic year of study. For part-time students, one core course and three electives will be taken in the first year of the study and three electives in the second year. Courses are assessed by 100% coursework. Currently these courses are as follows but not all of them will be offered each year:

CORE COURSE

CLIT7005 Approaches to Literary and Cultural Studies (9 credits)

This course aims to examine the changing notion of culture and the paradigmatic shifts in literary and cultural theory over the past few decades. Informed by Western Marxism, structuralism, postmodernism, feminism, postcolonialism and psychoanalysis, it maps out a landscape of critical perspectives on culture within the context of modernity and globalization. It assesses the potentialities and constraints of the cultures of capitalism in a global context. It seeks out innovative ways of articulating the intricate relations among the idea of popularity, counter culture, and the public sphere. With key concepts such as “hegemony” and “structures of feeling”, it examines how culture can be perceived as a lived, active and transformative process. As popular artifacts straddle between art and industry, this course questions the strict division between high and low cultures, center and periphery,

the mainstream and the independent/alternative. Drawing on literary and cultural texts produced and circulated within the deterritorialized, global space, this course focuses on the ways in which creativity, acts of resistance, and contestation of opinion enact processes of negotiation, struggle, challenge, and transformation. Topics for discussion may include film adaptation, the interfusion of high and low culture, technology and the democratization of culture, film genre, cultural myth and ideology, the global circulation of culture, and the notion of the public sphere.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ELECTIVE COURSES

CLIT7006 Fabrications of Identity (6 credits)

This course explores the formations of identity in literature, visual culture and theoretical discourse. It examines the politics and ethics of representing identity and difference, especially sexual difference and cultural difference in various local, national, and global settings. Drawing upon theoretical writings of feminism, deconstruction, race studies, performance theory, queer theory, and theory of simulation among others, the course engages literary and visual texts as creative and dialogic acts staging interconnected identities that demand close reading and inter-textual referencing. Topics may include: identity and hegemony; femininities and masculinities in contexts; visual pleasure and spectatorship; masquerade and performance; colonialism and hybridity; the politics of sex and race, and identities in cyberspace. Selective texts will be studied for their imaginative, innovative, and progressive staging of alternatives that speak to and counteract the given identities of monocultures and essentialisms.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7007 The Art and Politics of Narrative (6 credits)

If narrative is to do with storytelling, this course focuses on the art and politics of storytelling. What underpins the central focus of the course is the complex relation among representations of identity, ideology, history, and human agency. The course examines a variety of narratives across a range of cultures, genres, and media including poems, short stories, plays and films, and it introduces ways of reading them from theoretical, philosophical and cultural perspectives. Students will learn to read narratives within their historical and cultural context with the help of Marxism, poststructuralism, postcolonialism, psychoanalysis, and feminism. They will study how narratives function to contest, challenge and transcend various forms of cultural identity constructed by nationalism, state ideology, patriarchy, orientalism, occidentalism, capitalism and urbanism. Selections of narratives may range from the realist modes to surrealism and fantasy. With the former, fundamental issues such as mimesis, reality and alienation effects, as well as the political unconscious will be tackled whereas in the latter, innovative ways of contestation are produced when imagination goes on exile.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7008 From Colonialism to Globalization (6 credits)

This course addresses the cultural, intellectual and historical effects of what is arguably the dominant story of the last several hundred years: the emergence of, resistance to and eventual transformation of the modern, global system of colonialism. By the 1930s, 85 percent of the world was at one point a colony or ex-colony; this is to say that the world, from the “local” places of the South and East to the metropolises of the West, has been un-formed and re-formed by the experience and structures of colonialism and its afterlives. This course uncovers some of this history and complexity by examining foundational texts, concepts and ongoing debates within the study of colonialism, decolonization, and what is often thought of as the “new” era of globalization or unimpeded

capitalism. Readings can range from classic colonial literature to prototypical postcolonial films, but will also include some of the key statements from the leading critics of colonialism and capitalism. Key terms might include but are not limited to: nationalism, colonial discourse, hegemony, Third World, orientalism, subalternity, hybridity, imperialism, difference, sovereignty, neoliberalism.
Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7009 Modernity and its Paths (6 credits)

The course will look at the different ways in which modernism was defined, from the late 19th to the mid 20th century, in Europe, America, China and Japan. The purpose of the course is to reflect on the fact that modernism, as defined by its leading proponents, was quite often less an assertive, iconoclastic, avant-garde attack on tradition, than an ambiguous reflection on the place of literature and film in a more democratic, disenchanted age. Drawing on theoretical and critical texts by philosophers and scholars which highlight the ambiguity or dialectics of modernity, it will nonetheless mainly seek to engage with the configuration of modernity in individual fictional works and films. How is modernism related to the autonomy of literature, the emancipation of the individual, visuality, and memory? Does modernity signify a utopian liberation from all norms or does it recreate new forms of submission and hierarchy? How has the modern apparatus of cinema shaped ways of looking and engaging time and space, besides illuminating the shocks and of modern life?

At the same time as it seeks to deconstruct the simple opposition between tradition and modernity, the course will also question the meaning of literary and film modernism in the Chinese and Japanese context as an “iconoclastic” break with tradition in favor of “Westernization”, including localizing Western forms. Asian modernists demonstrate a similarly complex understanding of literature’s and film’s role in modern times. The difficulties in defining a “modernist canon” may in this sense reflect inseparable aspirations to the new and nostalgia for the old.
Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7010 Questioning Sexual Difference (6 credits)

This course continues the interrogation of gender and sexual difference initiated in *CLIT7006 Fabrications of Identity*. Drawing on theorists who have built on Freud’s understanding of human sexuality through the Greek myth of Oedipus as well as those who have actively countered Freudian psychoanalysis, this class explores a range of perspectives that challenges our commonsense understanding of sex and gender. Topics may include the history of sexuality, sexual revolutions, sexual subcultures, alternative or “dissident” sexualities, socialism and sexuality, feminist critiques of consumerism and domesticity, postmodern bodies, the politics of sexual orientation, transvestitism and transsexuality, queer identity and desire.
Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7011 Hong Kong and Beyond (6 credits)

This course explores Hong Kong culture in various local, national and global contexts in comparison with cities in China and other parts of the world. Through analyzing selected socio-cultural phenomena, literary, filmic and other cultural texts and sites, we examine how the forces of modernization, nationalism, colonialism and globalization have affected the shifts in cultural and political dynamics, and have prompted the changes in the imagination and re-imagination of urban cultural politics. We may draw from theoretical approaches and critical concepts of various disciplines and persuasions. Topics covered may include the questions of history and agency; the cultural tropes of crisis, hybridity, transition and transgression; personal, collective memories and urban affectivities; critical cultural policy and the politics of urban space; the spectacles of urban

renewal, tourism, consumption and popular culture; and, everyday life politics, local cultural resistance and decolonizing alternatives.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7012 Dissertation Seminar (6 credits)

Students who opt for dissertation-writing must take this course.

This seminar supports students as they face the challenges of doing independent literary, film, and cultural studies scholarship as they prepare to write their dissertations. In order to help students in the initial stages of their dissertation research, this course begins with an overview of critical methods currently in use that can be applied to the analysis of a variety of cultural texts. Taking the text, textual strategies, intertextuality, and discourse as starting points, discussion will move from the definition of an object of study to practical critique within the theoretical parameters of literary and cultural studies. The course revolves around student-led presentations, workshops, debates, panel presentations, and lectures arising from issues and concerns generated by the students' research. Students will analyze key concepts arising from their exploration of the scholarly literature on their dissertation topics, compare the strengths and weaknesses of various research methodologies, and embark on the research for their own project.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7013 Postmodernism (6 credits)

This course will explore a wide variety of phenomena characteristic of late 20th century culture. Notions such as fragmentation, irony, pastiche, playfulness, kitsch & camp, etc. will be examined. Making use of the city as guiding image, we will ask how postmodernism inflects questions of the stability of knowledge, the meaning of the subject, and the spectacle of the postmodern world. We will ask questions about the nature of global flow of goods, media, money, design, and concepts as they move between east, west, north, and south. Literature, film, theory, visual arts, architecture, music, TV shows and others will be discussed in the attempt of gaining a decently comprehensive understanding of what has been going on recently in world culture, and of how we are determined by these phenomena. The dynamics of a constantly reshaped connection between knowledge, sensation, language and the social contexts of the body will be closely examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7014 Film and Popular Culture (6 credits)

This course aims to examine the intricate relation between cinema and popular culture. Through the analysis of examples from the cinema of the Euro-American and Asian traditions, issues in connection with the interfusion of high and low culture, class structure and the popular arts, authorship, stars, and film genre, cultural myth and ideology, the global circulation of film, and audience and the cinematic public sphere will be discussed. With the specific emphasis on the multifaceted relation between cinema and popular culture, the course will explore how in some instances popular cinema is always in a dialectical relationship with what we might call "counter/art/independent" cinema while in other occasions, the popular and the independent cannot be easily separated.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7016 Contemporary Chinese Literature and Film (6 credits)

This course will examine contemporary literary and filmic texts from Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and the Chinese diaspora. Students will read short stories, essays, poetry, critical texts, and view

selected films from the Post-Mao period to the present, and from contemporary Taiwan and Hong Kong. Texts will introduce students to major intellectual currents and literary and film movements of this period, including socialist and critical realism, modernism, postmodernism, and nativism. Literary fiction and essays, as well as documentary and feature films will be referred to in order to explore the representation of history and violence, their relationship with collective memory and place in mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. The course will also question the notions of post-socialism and postmodernism in the context of the accelerating socioeconomic reforms of the 1990s and 2000s and engage discussion with frameworks such as Sinophone studies, minor literature, and the concept of ‘Chineseness’ today.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7018 Realism/Surrealism (6 credits)

Through a selection of literary and visual narratives, the course explores the intricate relation between realism and surrealism in culture and the arts. One part of the course explores some fundamental issues in the debates surrounding realism: mimesis, documentarism, reality and alienation effects. The other part turns to literary and filmic genres which are normally not grouped under the rubric of realism. Focus shifts to the fairy tale, fantastic literature, ghost story, docu-drama, mockumentary, and science fiction film. With these two parts, the course seeks to reflect upon the ways in which realist and surrealistic narratives relate to actuality, and upon issues related to defamiliarization, madness and death, the architectural uncanny, and crisis consciousness.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7019 World Cinema (6 credits)

This course explores the meaning of “world cinema” within an increasingly complex circulation of motion pictures as part of a globalized cultural economy. A range of films from around the world that serve as cultural artifacts will be closely examined to tease out their aesthetic contribution to global film culture. Questions will also be raised regarding the impact of global capitalism, and the effects of cultural hegemony on “independent” national cinemas, “art” cinema, “festival” films, and the transnational cinematic aesthetics that characterizes these developments. Selected films from the 20th and 21st centuries are studied with a view to historicize world cinema, attend to cultural specificities, examine the notion of film authorship, and explore relevant theories and trends in cinema studies.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7020 Introduction to Research Methods (6 credits)

This is a course to introduce master-level students to theory-informed research methods in literary, film, and cultural studies. It gives a survey of the key concepts, methods, debates, and authors as they pertain to the research and analysis of texts, contexts, and world. Questions for inquiry include: How do scholars engage theory and method to examine narratives, discourse, form, genre, ideology, subjectivity, and imaginary? How do analyses of texts, practices, reception, production contexts engage cultural economy, power, politics, and/or historiography? Research methods covered in the course include: narrative analysis, formal analysis, authorship studies, genre studies, discourse analysis, ideological analysis, and ecocritical analysis.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7021 Approaches to Cinematic Arts (6 credits)

This course introduces theoretical and critical approaches to the study of film in an international and interdisciplinary frame. It acquaints students with selections from classical, contemporary, and

postcolonial theories of film and cinema, with emphasis on the revisions and interventions informed by feminisms, Third Cinema, postcolonialism, postmodernism, queer theory, and digital culture. Beginning with readings on visibility and critical visions, the course introduces different theories and positions on the questions of medium specificity, film's relation with the other parts, concepts used in film criticism, theories and practices of cinema, and cinematic arts in digital humanities.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7022 Screen Documentaries (6 credits)

The politics, modes, ethics, and practices of screen documentaries will be introduced in international and interdisciplinary frames. Beginning with readings on non-fictional storytelling, authenticity and authority, ethics and politics of documentary on screen, students will examine the role of the documentarian, the documentary subjects, issues of gender and ethnicity, globalization, and modes of documentary including observational, expository, participatory, poetic, reflective, performative, and hybrid approaches. Lectures, viewings, and discussions will emphasize intellectual and critical understanding of documentary film and video texts, as well as their historical and cultural contexts. Students will do analytical and reflective writing, undertake research and participatory observations, and investigate documentary practices and ethics. Students will complete a still photo-text project for the mid-term and a group digital documentary with their own equipment (5-7 minutes) for the final project. Students will write commentaries and do reflective writing on the group project.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7023 Ecological Imaginations in Literary and Visual narratives (6 credits)

This course will examine the significant ideas, concepts, debates, and questions around ecocriticism, environmental studies, animal studies, and posthumanism by studying a selection of contemporary literary and visual narratives. The ways in which nature, animals, and humans are situated and represented in these narratives carry environmental, ethical, political and philosophical ramifications. The course will also examine models of critique and change as responses to historical and critical contexts and global ecological conditions. Students will apply appropriate key ecocritical concepts such as deep ecology, ecofeminism, queer ecocriticism, and green activism to analyze literary and visual narratives.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7024 Advanced Cultural Studies: Context, Culture, Critique (6 credits)

This course serves as an advanced introduction to Cultural Studies. Cultural studies is an *inter-disciplinary* mode of scholarship that seeks to produce critical but useful knowledge. It is based first of all in a radical *contextualization* that presumes an ability to situate texts, people, and problems within a certain historical and social framework that draws on various forms of 'theory' or ways of seeing. As a mode of inquiry it foregrounds not a particular genre or medium or discipline like literature or film or, say, sociology, but particular problems and issues that matter or have mattered in history. What matters, and to whom, is a large and open question that must be addressed. But within cultural studies there is a commitment to culture as "ordinary" and "common" as opposed to merely esoteric or aesthetic or privileged or individualized. Cultural studies draws on the textual and semiotic skills from literary, film, and media studies but it does not confine itself to texts. It seeks instead to ground itself in something variously called "culture," everyday life, lived experience, social reality, political or group struggle, the historical present, and so on: these too are all terms that must be scrutinized; but they also point to the essentially social and 'real' world that cultural studies seeks to understand and intervene in.

This course will introduce the above template for doing cultural studies, through both theoretical and practical readings. It will read theoretical or methodological texts. It will also offer one or several case studies or examples, classic or contemporary, of ‘achieved’ or actual cultural studies. Cultural studies is in fact not easy to do but is or should always be worthwhile or useful to someone or something. Literary or cinematic or other texts may also be used to illustrate the problems and methods of cultural studies.

Pre-requisite: CLIT7005 Approaches to Literary and Cultural Studies

Assessment: 100% coursework

CLIT7999 Capstone Experience: Dissertation (15 credits)

CLIT7998 Capstone Experience: Portfolio/Individual Project (15 credits)

Students who have received a B+ grade or above in 4 or more courses, and with the approval by the MALCS Programme Chairperson, may choose to do a dissertation of approximately 10,000 words as partial fulfilment of the requirements for the MA degree. Students who opt for dissertation writing must take the elective “CLIT7012 Dissertation Seminar”. Students who opt for portfolio and individual project must attend special sessions and/or workshops.

All students have the following options:

- To compile a portfolio of coursework for the MA curriculum. Students choosing the Portfolio option are required to revise one or more previous MALCS papers into a final paper of approximately 7,500 words.
- To conduct an individual project to develop and produce an approved creative work under supervision. The student will submit a written report of around 5,000 words on the relationship between the project and the coursework undertaken for the MA degree.
- Students who opt for portfolio/individual project must take a regular course in lieu of CLIT7012.

Dissertation involves 360 hours of learning activities which include research, writing workshops, dissertation writing as well as regular supervision, emails and feedback on draft materials. Portfolio/Individual Project involves 300 hours of learning activities which include mini-lectures, research, library workshop, writing workshops as well as regular supervision, emails and feedback on draft materials.

For full-time students, the capstone experience must be completed by **August 1** in the academic year of study and its title should be submitted for approval by **March 1** of that year.

For part-time students, the capstone experience must be completed by **August 1** in the second academic year of the study and its title should be submitted for approval by **March 1** of that year.

Assessment: 100% coursework

TRANSLATION

PURPOSE

The MA in the field of Translation programme aims at providing students with intensive training in translation and interpreting practice in different domains. It also broadens students’ theoretical perspectives and equips them with essential research skills for Translation and Interpreting Studies. This programme places an emphasis on professional translation and interpreting and promotes interdisciplinarity by involving the teachers from different Schools and Departments in the supervision of capstone projects.

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

The curriculum consists of three modules, with ten courses in Modules 1 to 2 and a capstone experience in Module 3. Modules 1 to 2 comprise three and seven courses respectively.

Students are required to take all the core courses in Module 1. Module 2 offers elective courses divided into two categories: Translation and Interpreting. Students can specialise in both of them by taking three Translation courses and two Interpreting courses. However, students who would like to specialise in written translation should also read the core Interpreting course to fulfil the graduation requirement. This arrangement guarantees that students receive training in both Translation and Interpreting so that they will be more competitive in the workplace after graduation.

The seven Translation courses are conducted in the form of lectures, while the three Interpreting courses are taught in the form of workshops, seminars or practical sessions. All the courses are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills for the pursuit of a career in Translation or Interpreting in various domains, especially the legal, commercial, government and media sectors.

Module 3 is a capstone experience in the form of a translation/interpreting project. The translation project requires students to render an English text into Chinese or vice versa, and to write a critical introduction in the target language to their own translations, under the supervision of a teacher. If students choose to undertake an interpreting project, they must analyse a video or audio recording of an interpreted meeting conducted from English to Cantonese or vice versa, under the supervision of a teacher. This is a whole-year project which students start in the third semester and complete by the end of the fourth semester.

Students in this curriculum are required to complete eight courses (three cores and five electives) and a capstone translation/interpreting project as a culminating academic experience. Each Translation course will be conducted weekly for two hours in a semester, while Interpreting workshops will normally be divided into two groups with two time slots for students' choice, depending on the size of individual classes. The capstone course requires students to meet with their supervisors individually for discussions for four hours in total throughout the last two semesters of the programme.

Module One: Core Courses

CHIN7201 Advanced Translation Studies (6 credits)

This course offers a theoretical approach to translation practice and research. It introduces students to seminal translation theories and encourages them to fruitfully apply such knowledge to translation practice and criticism. Through discussions, assignments and group presentations, students will acquire essential translation skills and research techniques in translation studies. The course also prepares students for the capstone project, which requires them to translate a text and write a critical introduction to their own work.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7202 Approaches to Translation (6 credits)

This course equips students with the fundamental knowledge of translation and the basic skills required. It explores how translation functions as a communicative activity in different social settings like the Government and the private sector. To introduce students to current trends in translation, the course will examine major theoretical and cultural issues of translation in Hong Kong. Coursework assessment will be based on take-home assignments and classwork.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7203 Introduction to Interpreting (6 credits)

This course provides students with the fundamental knowledge of interpreting and the basic skills required. It introduces students to the various settings in which interpreting services are provided with a special focus on interpreting in courts. It examines interpreter's codes of ethics and discusses the dilemmas and challenges faced by interpreters working in different settings. The course also reviews significant interpreting studies conducted in recent years.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Module Two: Elective Courses**CHIN7204 Language Contrast for Translators (6 credits)**

This course examines fundamental differences between English and Chinese from the perspective of contrastive linguistics, with an emphasis on grammar, syntax and discourse pragmatics. It introduces students to an array of techniques that can be used to negotiate these structural differences in translation. Throughout the course, students will be trained to reflect critically on the notion that language is an inherent constituent of culture (and, conversely, that culture is embedded within the innate fabric of language), and to appreciate how knowledge of contrastive linguistics contributes to our understanding of different cognitive systems and discourse orientations across cultures. The implications of all of this for intercultural communication will also be explored.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7205 Culture and Translation (6 credits)

The course addresses the dynamic relationship between culture and translation in both conceptual and practical terms and thus seeks to deepen students' understanding of translation as a cross-cultural dialogue. The course serves two purposes. First, it introduces theories and notions on the role played by culture in production and reception of translation and aims to cultivate among the students the cultural sensitivity that is needed for a professional translator. Second, it focuses on the cultural dimension of various types of translation and aims to enhance students' ability in dealing with culture-bound texts of different genres in both English to Chinese and Chinese to English translation practices.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7206 Translation of Government and Commercial Texts (6 credits)

This course facilitates a better understanding of the provision of professional translation service in Hong Kong, especially in the public sector. Texts commonly requiring translation will be covered and their translations examined critically for effectiveness. Students will be able to hone their language and translation skills and to sharpen their translation acumen through various translation assignments and evaluative discussions.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7207 Legal Translation (6 credits)

This course is designed for students interested in a career in legal translation. It develops and strengthens their analytical and linguistic skills required for translating legal texts between English and Chinese. Students will be introduced to some basic legal concepts, terminology and discourse characteristics of bilingual legal documents. A special focus is placed on legal research skills, translation strategies, and pragmatic decision-making of legal translators. Students will embark on a

journey towards professional competence as they learn through translation practice and critical analysis of translated legal texts.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7208 Mass Media Translation (6 credits)

This course prepares students for careers in mass media, such as reporters, editors, copywriters, translators, account executives and marketing managers. It covers a range of topics like the translation of news articles, features, editorials, press releases, speeches, advertising and promotional materials. The stylistic features and social functions of these genres will be explored. The work constraints including translation goals, target readers and translator-client relationship will also be discussed. In addition to acquiring professional skills in translating mass media texts, students will develop critical thinking about translators' role in shaping the target language and its culture.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7209 English–Cantonese Conference Interpreting (SI) (6 credits)

This workshop-based course exposes students to the wide-ranging settings and topics for which simultaneous interpretation is required. It prepares students for handling myriad tasks by broadening their knowledge base, enhancing their language skills and providing feedback for their in-class performance.

Assessment: 100% coursework

CHIN7210 English-Cantonese Legal Interpreting (CI) (6 credits)

This workshop-based course provides students with intensive training in consecutive and simultaneous interpreting between English and Cantonese, using primarily authentic audio recordings of court proceedings from various court levels in Hong Kong. Training will focus on witness examination, counsel speeches, jury instructions and court judgments. This course familiarises students with courtroom protocols, characteristics of courtroom language and the intricacies of interpreting in the courtroom.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Module Three: Capstone Experience

CHIN7996 Capstone Experience: Translation / Interpreting Project (12 credits)

This capstone project serves as a culminating academic experience for students and enables them to put into practice what they have learned in the various theoretical and practical translation and interpreting courses of the MA programme. Students can choose to undertake either a Translation or an Interpreting project to fulfil this capstone requirement.

The Translation project requires students to render a text selected from a list of Chinese and English books recommended by teachers of the Programme as early as the beginning of the third semester, and work under the supervision of a teacher assigned by the Programme Coordinator. Students can choose to work on a text from Chinese to English or vice versa, and the length of the text should be about 5,000 characters in Chinese or 4,500 words in English. Students are required to submit their translations by three instalments and to meet with their supervisors individually for follow-up discussions. The final version of their work should be submitted with an introduction of about 3,000 characters in Chinese or 2,500 words in English written in the Target Language of their project. In other words, the total output of the project is 7,000 words (English) or 8,000 characters (Chinese). In

the introduction, students are expected to describe and explain the distinctive features of the source text, their translation goals, strategies and target readers, and to critically evaluate their own work by citing examples from it and relevant theories as appropriate.

Students undertaking an Interpreting project have to analyse a video or audio recording of an interpreted meeting. The interpretation should be conducted from English to Cantonese or vice versa, and the length of the meeting should be about 20 minutes. The recording, both the original and the interpretation, has to be transcribed, if no transcripts are available. Students are required to produce an essay of 5,000 words (English) or 6,000 characters (Chinese) in either language of their choice, excluding the transcripts. Students can focus their analysis on omissions or additions in interpretation, semantic or pragmatic equivalence, as well as the overall quality of the interpretation. Students are expected to cite Translation or Interpreting theories in their analysis where appropriate. In the process of writing, students are required to meet with their supervisors individually on a regular basis to discuss their work and progress.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Assessment

Students' performance is assessed by coursework as specified in the descriptions of individual courses. Coursework assessment is based on essays, term papers, projects, tests, or other kinds of oral or written work as prescribed by the course teachers.

Medium of Instruction

Courses will be conducted in English, Cantonese or Putonghua as the teacher sees fit.
